

Fair Political Practices Commission
Memorandum

To: Chairman Johnson, Commissioners Hodson, Huguenin, Leidigh, and Remy
From: Michael B. Salerno, Executive Director
Subject: Executive Director's Report
Date: December 20, 2007

This is a summary of administrative activity and other matters since the report sent to you prior to the last Commission meeting.

STAFF PROJECTS

Technical Assistance:

Seminar: Dixie Howard made a presentation at the League of Cities, City Clerks New Law Seminar in Monterey, and Carla Wardlow made a presentation on new legislative changes at a meeting of county elections officials.

Outreaches: Tara Stock and Terrance Rodgers presented an SEI outreach for Shasta County.

CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST CODES

Pursuant to Section 87300 of the Government Code and Commission Regulation 18750.1, state and multi-county agencies seeking to adopt or substantively amend a conflict-of-interest code must submit the proposed code to the Commission for review and approval. The Technical Assistance Division has reviewed and, since the last agenda, I have approved the following conflict of interest codes:

Code Amendment

Sierra Charter School (new positions)
Department of Conservation (new positions)
Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (new positions)
SMUD (new positions)

Code Adoption

Eastern Sierra Transit Authority

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF COMMITTEE TERMINATION

Mark Leyes for Assembly (ID# 1232304) - A request for extension of termination deadline was granted on December 5, 2007.

Friends for Chuck DeVore (ID# 1245341) - A request for extension of termination deadline was granted on December 5, 2007.

FINDINGS OF PROBABLE CAUSE

Pursuant to Regulation 18361, I have found sufficient evidence in the following case to lead a person of ordinary caution and prudence to believe or entertain a strong suspicion that the following respondent committed or caused a violation of the Political Reform Act. **This finding of probable cause does not constitute a finding that a violation has actually occurred. The respondent is presumed to be innocent of any violation of the Act unless a violation is proved in a subsequent proceeding.**

In the Matter of Latino Builders Industry Association, FPPC No. 04/250. On December 7, 2007, probable cause was found to believe that Respondent, Latino Builders Industry Association, committed eleven violations of the Political Reform Act, as follows:

COUNT 1 – On or about November 5, 2001, Respondent Latino Builders Industry Association made a \$250 contribution to Bob Griego, a candidate for Chula Vista City Council, in the name of Ricardo Gomez, rather than its own name, in violation of Section 84301 of the Government Code.

COUNT 2 – On or about November 5, 2001, Respondent Latino Builders Industry Association made a \$250 contribution to Bob Griego, a candidate for Chula Vista City Council, in the name of James Ridley, rather than its own name, in violation of Section 84301 of the Government Code.

COUNT 3 – On or about November 15, 2001, Respondent Latino Builders Industry Association made a \$250 contribution to Ralph Inzunza, a candidate for San Diego City Council, in the name of James Ridley, rather than its own name, in violation of Section 84301 of the Government Code.

COUNT 4 – On or about December 6, 2001, Respondent Latino Builders Industry Association made a \$500 contribution to Juan Vargas, a candidate for State Assembly – 79th Assembly District, in the name of James Ridley, rather than its own name, in violation of Section 84301 of the Government Code.

COUNT 5 – On or about January 19, 2002, Respondent Latino Builders Industry Association made a \$250 contribution to Steve Padilla, a candidate for Chula Vista City Council, in the name of J. V. Gomez, rather than its own name, in violation of Section 84301 of the Government Code.

COUNT 6 – On or about February 1, 2002, Respondent Latino Builders Industry Association made a \$250 contribution to Steve Padilla, a candidate for Chula Vista City Council, in the name of Visaya Cunanan, rather than its own name, in violation of Section 84301 of the Government Code.

COUNT 7 – On or about August 15, 2002, Respondent Latino Builders Industry Association made a \$200 contribution to Greg Sandoval, a candidate for Sweetwater Union High School District Board of Trustees, in the name of Visaya Cunanan, rather than its own name, in violation of Section 84301 of the Government Code.

COUNT 8 – On or about October 24, 2002, Respondent Latino Builders Industry Association made a \$100 contribution to Nick Inzunza, a candidate for Mayor of National City, in the name of Ricardo Gomez, rather than its own name, in violation of Section 84301 of the Government Code.

COUNT 9 – On or about September 24, 2003, Respondent Latino Builders Industry Association made a \$100 contribution to Steve Castaneda, a candidate for Chula Vista City Council, in the name of Julissa Cabrera, rather than its own name, in violation of Section 84301 of the Government Code.

COUNT 10 – On or about October 14, 2004, Respondent Latino Builders Industry Association made a \$200 contribution to Steve Castaneda, a candidate for Chula Vista City Council, in the name of Julissa Cabrera, rather than its own name, in violation of Section 84301 of the Government Code.

COUNT 11 – On or about October 27, 2004, Respondent Latino Builders Industry Association made a \$250 contribution to Raquel Marquez, a candidate for San Ysidro School Board of Trustees, in the name of Julissa Cabrera, rather than its own name, in violation of Section 84301 of the Government Code.

COMMISSION MEETINGS FOR 2008

The following are suggested dates for the remainder of the Commission's 2008 meetings for your consideration:

Thursday, February 14th
Thursday, March 13th
Thursday, April 10th
Thursday, May 8th
Thursday, June 12th
No meeting in July

Thursday, August 14th
Thursday, September 11th
Thursday, October 16th
Thursday, November 13th
Thursday, December 11th